GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:341
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2003
CONTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOUR TO GNP
A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether child labour in the country contributes more than 15% of Gross National Product (GNP);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of GNP contributed by child labour during the Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plan;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the contribution made by the children during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(e) the extent to which the success has been achieved in eliminating child labour during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 341 FOR ANSWER ON 07.04 REGARDING `CONTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOUR` BY SHRI A. VENKTESH NAIK AND OTHERS.

(a) to (c) Employing children under the age of 14 years is prohibited under the provisions of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. However, child labour continues to exist in various parts of the country. The contribution of child labour to GNP has not been assessed.

(d) The Government is proposing to eliminate child labour through the National Child Labour Projects(NCLPs), which were being implemented in 100 districts in the 9th Plan by expanding it to cover additional 50 districts in the 10th Plan.

(e) The Government had implemented the NCLPs to eliminate child labour in 100 districts in the 9th Plan. 4002 bridging schools covering 2.11 lakh children have been set up by the end of the 9th Plan. A total of 1.70 lakh children have been mainstreamed to the formal school system so far.